



The DAM NEWSLETTER

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FRIENDS OF RAYSTOWN LAKE

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A New Home for Bats?



You may be wondering what the Raystown Staff is up to now with those telephone pole like things behind the Visitors Center and Volunteer Village. Well, they are artificial bat roosting structures. Instead of your typical bat boxes, the Raystown Staff is trying a new type of bat "tree". These structures are designed to replicate trees that bats would typically use for roosting during the summer season such as an old den tree with holes or those with exfoliating like shagbark hickory. These structures are designed with an outer artificial bark. There is an approximate 3/4" to 1" space between the outer bark layer and the pole itself. This allows the bats to fly up underneath or inside the structure for protection and raising of young until they return to caves for their winter hibernation. Inside the bark layer is a fine wire mesh that provides a structure for the bats to "cling" or attach to. While these structures will suit a variety of species, the Raystown Staff is hoping to encourage or provide roosting opportunities for the federally endangered Indiana Bat and the federally threatened Northern Long-eared Bat.



Friends of Raystown Lake
P.O. Box 87
Hesston, Pa 16647

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Cooperative Agency

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Raystown Lake
6145 Seven Points Road
Hesston, Pa 16647
814-658-3405

Park Manager
Nicholas Krupa

Table of Contents

A New Home for Bats?.....	1
Captain's Quarters.....	1
Recruiting for Volunteer Village.....	2
Pipeline Construction at Raystown Resumes.....	2
Responding to Natural Disasters...	3
Aquatic Vegetation Mapped.....	3
Upcoming Events	4
Internship Opportunities	4
Action on the Allegrippis	5
Membership Application	5
Raystown Hunting Opportunities ..	6



Captain's Quarters

It has been a beautiful fall season at Raystown Lake with the foliage hanging on longer than usual. Of course winter is just around the corner with the holiday season. The Friends of Raystown Lake Christmas Meeting will be held December 14th at Hoss's Restaurant with a meet and greet at 5:30 pm followed by dinner and a presentation on the Hawn's Bridge Resort proposed development by Janet Chambers. A short business meeting will also follow. FRL has wrapped up a busy summer with a successful RayCEP program, another good year on the Allegrippis Trails, and a successful year of operation for Putt's Camp, which is targeted for scouting and non-profit groups. 2018 membership dues are due beginning in January and all the money goes back into FRL projects. Have a great holiday season and 2018 will be busy for FRL as usual!

Ron



Recruiting for Volunteer Village



Residents of Volunteer Village assist in the lake's annual Chalk the Walk event to promote water safety!

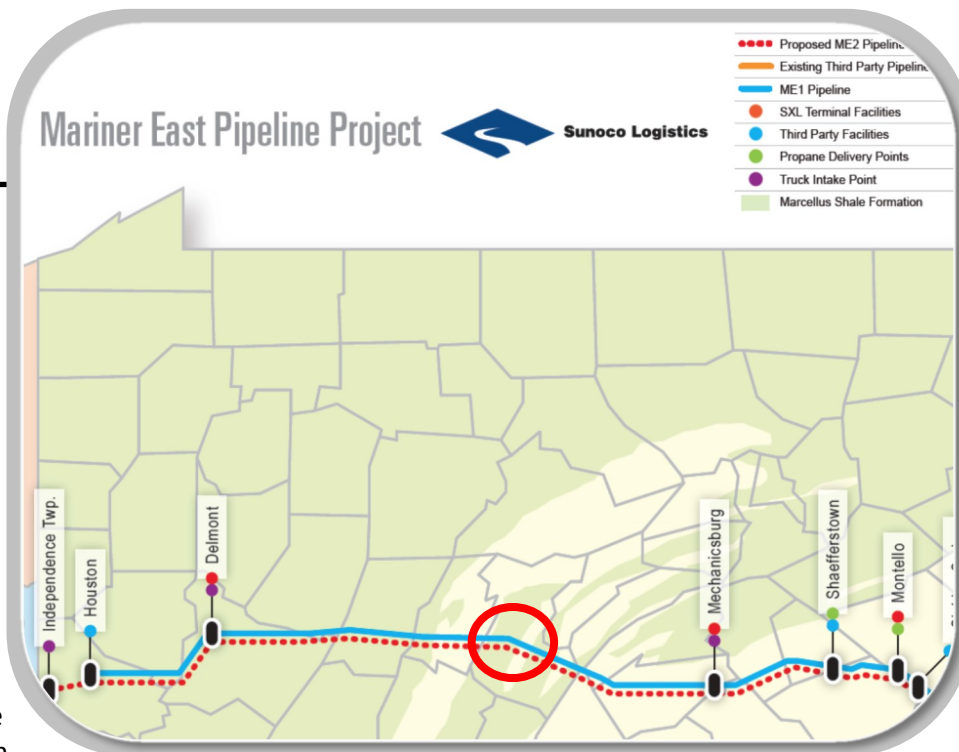
Are you a camper looking for the perfect way to spend your Spring, Summer, and/or Fall seasons? Well, there isn't a better way than joining the crew residing in Volunteer Village. The Raystown Staff is actively recruiting for 2 couples to fill vacancies in Volunteer Village. Located in the heart of Seven Points with a beautiful view of Raystown Lake, campers residing in Volunteer Village provide an invaluable service to public lands. Residents of Volunteer Village should be prepared to spend a minimum of 12 weeks at Raystown Lake during which each couple will be required to perform 30 hours of work each week in exchange for a free camping stay. The spacious campsites provide full hook ups and of course that stunning view! The type of volunteer work is variable, but generally includes light maintenance, litter pickup, trail maintenance, and outreach assistance. For more information and to complete an application, please contact Park Ranger Alicia Palmer at 814-658-6812. We look forward to working with you!

Pipeline Construction at Raystown Resumes

-Article provided by Raystown Staff

The staff at Raystown Lake would like to share information with visitors regarding the construction of the Sunoco Logistics Mariner East 2 Pipeline Project. The Mariner East 2 Pipeline Project is a planned, new underground pipeline system traversing nearly 350 miles to ship natural gas liquids from the Marcellus and Utica shale areas in Ohio and West Virginia to the company's Marcus Hook complex near Philadelphia.

As part of the pipeline route, approximately 5 miles will be constructed on the Raystown Lake Project through the Seven Points Recreation Area and adjacent to the existing pipeline.



Construction on the pipeline began at the end of February 2017. Since then, the staff at Raystown Lake has worked closely with Sunoco Logistics to minimize impacts to visitors. During the course of the summer, construction was paused for the recreation season. Now that fall has arrived, construction has resumed in the Seven Points Recreation Area. For the safety of Allegrippis Trails users, temporary closures have been placed on portions of the trail system. Detours are in place to route users to appropriate parking facilities and open trails because Fall is an absolutely great time to ride!

Construction and final restoration is set to be completed near the end of March 2018, depending on winter weather conditions. We ask that if you have any questions or concerns while you are recreating at Raystown Lake that you visit the Ranger Office.

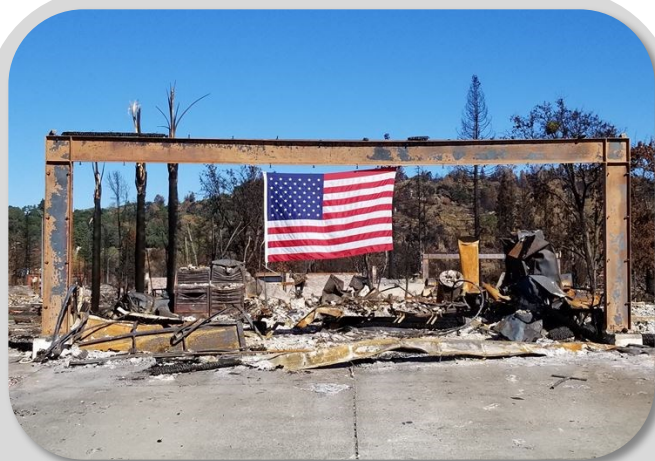


Responding to Natural Disasters

When natural disasters occur and devastate communities, most folks most immediately think of FEMA and the Red Cross stepping up to the plate. That is absolutely correct, but what many folks don't realize is the role of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in providing disaster relief and response as well. Overall, the Corps works in partnership with the local, state, and federal response to natural disasters. Currently, the Corps has more than 975 personnel engaged and coordinating with local, state, and FEMA partners in Florida, Puerto Rico, California and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The number one priority continues to be the life, health and safety of all who were affected by Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

Several members of the Baltimore District (which Raystown Lake is a part of) have or are getting ready to deploy to California to provide support to household hazardous waste and debris removal following the recent wildfires that devastated the northern part of the state. To expedite recovery, state and federal partners will coordinate closely with affected jurisdictions to remove fire debris from single-family residential lots and public facilities. Dorie Murphy, Baltimore District Emergency Management Chief, noted that "The people who are volunteering to leave their jobs and their homes to go and help those in need are taking on additional duties."

Two such employees are Raystown Lake's Alicia Palmer and former Raystown Lake seasonal ranger George Harchack. Ranger's Palmer and Harchack will be providing disaster response in California for 30 days each during the months of November and December.



"It's great to be part of the national mission that we have supporting this effort. It is especially important to me because a few years ago I lived in these areas that have been affected by the devastating wildfires"
said Alicia Palmer, Park Ranger at Raystown Lake.



Aquatic Vegetation Mapped

In the last issue of the FRL Newsletter, we shared with you information on invasive species, including aquatic invasive vegetation. While it is relatively easy to survey and identify native and invasive vegetation on land, it is a little more challenging to survey and identify vegetation that exists in the aquatic environment. Until this past month, a full survey of the aquatic vegetation (both invasive and native) present in Raystown Lake has never been completed. The Raystown Staff has been fortunate to receive data from Juniata College as they have monitored and sampled a few collection sites over time, but a full lake assessment has always been desired. In early November, Raystown Staff had the opportunity to work with team members from the Corps Environmental Research and Development Center on a full survey of the aquatic vegetation present in Raystown Lake. While it will take sometime to analyze all of the data collected, survey members observed a mix of both native vegetation and invasive vegetation. Our invasive vegetation included species such as Hydrilla, Eurasian Water Milfoil, Brittle Naiad, and others. A goal of this assessment is to determine if treatment of the invasive vegetation is possible, cost effective, and to identify the most suitable locations for treatment.

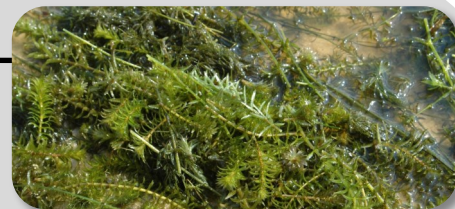


Photo Above: Hydrilla
Photo Below: Brittle Naiad



Upcoming Events

Raystown isn't just busy over the summer, here are a few upcoming events for your calendar this winter season:

- **December 9th: The 16th Annual Chris Bowser Wheelin Sportsmen Hunt.** Join members of the National Wild Turkey Federations' Terrace Mountain Chapter and Raystown Lake staff to provide a unique hunting opportunity for persons with a disability. Volunteers are needed! For more information on how you can help, please contact Ranger Tara Whitsel by email at tara.j.whitsel@usace.army.mil or by phone at 814-658-6811!



- **December 14th Friends of Raystown Lake Monthly Meeting.** Join the FRL for their Annual Christmas Meeting held at Hoss's Steak and Sea House in Huntingdon. During this month's meeting we will have a special presentation from Ms. Janet Chambers, Community Relations Director of the Terrace Mountain Lodge and Haws Bridge Marina Development, on the proposed development. Social gathering with hors d'oeuvres beginning at 5:30 pm, dinner (at your cost) beginning at 6:00pm, business meeting beginning at 7:00pm. During this month's meeting we will also receive final nominations and vote for 4 board of directors seats. We hope that you can join us.
- **Reminder:** November 16th was the first day that campers could make reservations for 2018 through www.recreation.gov. The Seven Points Campground will open for the 2018 camping season on April 6 for walk-in only camping. Reservations can be made now for stays beginning on May 16th 2018. Happy Camping!



Internship Opportunities

Raystown Lake Project intends to hire two Student Conservation Association (SCA) Interns for the 2018 summer season. One position will focus on Natural Resource Management, assisting Raystown's forester and biologist in management of the Project's wild-life and forest habitat. A significant portion of time will be spent in the Raystown Lake American Chestnut Breeding Orchards. Additional requirements include the ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions, a desire to learn about forest and wildlife management, and an independent work ethic.

The second position will focus on implementation of the Corps water safety program at Raystown Lake for the 2018 summer recreation season. Requirements include activities in water safety promotion, maintaining life jacket loaner stations, organizing events, conducting interpretive programs, and roving interpretation, writing news releases, possibly conducting media interviews (radio), promoting USACE safety campaigns, developing public service announcements and interacting with park visitors.

Both internship opportunities will provide training and education as well as offer valuable hands-on experiences in resource and recreation management. If you have an interest in working with USACE and enjoy the outdoors and interacting with persons from varied ages and backgrounds, then please apply! Recruitment will begin in January. We encourage all interested interns to visit www.thesca.org to learn more about SCA. Additionally, for more information or to apply, please call Park Ranger Alicia Palmer at (814) 658-6812.



Raystown's Water Safety SCA Intern promotes the important message of wearing a personal flotation device while swimming in the lake.



Action on the Allegrippis

Article provided by Brent Rader, RMBA

With the short days this time of year, night riding becomes a regular activity. Did you know it is permissible to ride the Allegrippis trails at night year round? Riders don powerful head-lamps, and ride the trails at night, giving new thrills to, and presenting new challenges on otherwise familiar sections of trail. Riders often find themselves far more concentrated on the trail ahead while night riding.



In other news, it's mud season at the Allegrippis Trails! This time of year we don't get as much sun, so things take longer to dry out, and sometimes muddy spots develop. To deal with one muddy spot, Raystown Mountain Bike Association

(RMBA) members recently completed a boardwalk to cover a muddy spot caused by a natural spring on Loco-Motive trail. The spot had become rutted and very wide, and was creating an erosion problem. The new boardwalk allows water to flow underneath it, and trail users to safely cross over this spot.

RMBA members also recently held a fall work weekend. Volunteers spent the weekend working on a "dual slalom" section of Redlegs trail. This allows riders to pass each other in an area that was otherwise somewhat narrow.

Watch for workdays coming up. RMBA volunteers plan to clear the trails of leaves, once the fall leaf drop is finished. We find that keeping the trails clear of leaves helps to preserve the riding surface, as it doesn't then get soft with organic material. FRL members, and the general public, are welcome and encouraged to attend our workdays and see what we're up to at the trails!

Important Reminder: The Allegrippis Trails are closed from Monday, November 27th through Saturday, December 9th to minimize user conflict with the 2 week PA White-tail—rifle hunting season. At any time, the trails are located on lands open to public hunting. Please remember to be seen and wear fluorescent orange on your head, chest, and back. Thanks for riding safely!

2018

Membership Application

Please complete this application and send it along with a check payable to:



Friends of Raystown Lake
PO Box 87
Hesston, Pa 16647



☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Friend | \$500 (lifetime) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Friend | \$10/year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Friend | \$15/year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Club / Organization Friend | \$25/year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Friend | \$50/year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Friend | \$100/year |

Extra Embroidered Patches: _____ @ \$3.00 each

Extra Decals: _____ @ \$1.00 each

Pins: _____ @ 5.00 each

Donation: _____



Please send my quarterly newsletter by email!

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Thank You!



Membership Reminder

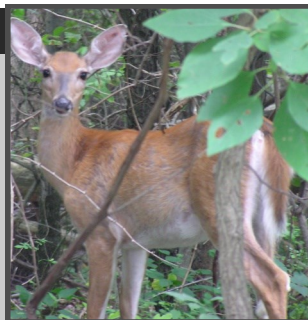
The year 2017 membership dues have started! Our memberships are set up on a calendar basis—January through December. As you may know, the bulk of our operating budget comes from membership fees. Please help to keep FRL strong and renew your membership today.

Hunting Opportunities

As the leaves have turned and various hunting seasons are well underway in Pennsylvania and at Raystown Lake, the Raystown Staff would like to take this opportunity to inform area hunters on hunting access and the use of tree stands. In terms of hunting access, we know the terrain at Raystown can be quite the challenge; therefore, we have opened the following gated areas according to the schedule below.

The following gates will be open through December 09, 2017

Gate 1	Hawn Road
Gate 8	Susquehannock Campground Road
Gate 13	Upper Corners Road (Near Seven Points)
Gate 27	Fink Road (Just off of John Bum Road)
Gate 28	High Germany Road (Nancy Camp Service Road)
Gate 35	Miller Farm Road (Near Weaver Falls Recreation Area)



“Portable hunting stands may be placed not more than 2 weeks prior to the start of any deer season and must be removed no later than 2 weeks after the close of the final deer season.”

In addition, we know that once you have accessed the land, location is key. Therefore, we would like to clarify the use of tree stands on Raystown Lake. The use of **non-portable** hunting stands is prohibited. Portable hunting stands or blinds, however, may be used and placed at a desired hunting location on the Corps of Engineers’ properties not more than 2 weeks before the start of any deer season and must be removed within 2 weeks after the close of the final deer season as defined by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Portable hunting stands and blinds are those defined to include climbing devices, steps, or blinds that are not nailed or screwed into trees or would otherwise damage property or vegetation.

As a reminder, there is no off-season maintenance on these roadways; vehicle operators will be traveling at their own risk. All Pennsylvania Game Commission and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulations apply. Other hunters, such as those pursuing small game or archery hunting opportunities, may also use the open roads for vehicle access during these periods.

The 32-mile Allegrippis Trails System are open (EXCEPT FOR THE 2 WEEK RIFLE SEASON). Hunters should expect moderate bike trail use and plan their hunt accordingly. Please be aware of your surroundings and always positively identify your target as many non-hunting visitors will also be enjoying outdoor activities.